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NPIC/TSSG/DED-1473-69
8 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans & Programs Division, PPBS/NPIC
THROUGH : Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC
SUBJECT : R&D Status Report on Selected Projects
REFERENCE : PPD/PPBS Speed Letter Dated 24 December 1968

1. The following Project Status information is forwarded in response to the request contained in the reference letter:

25X1 a. High Precision Stereo Comparator - Approximately 40% of the work has been completed. [] the optical subcontractor, reports that the completion date for the optical system will slip from 10 August 1969 to 1 November 1969. They attribute this slippage to the long lead time required in obtaining parts as a result of the [] Since the optical system is the critical path item for the program, the entire project will reflect this delay. The following dates are projected by [] based on this latest information from []

25X1 1 November 1969 - [] to start acceptance tests on the optical system
25X1 at []
25X1 1 January 1970 - [] to start preliminary installations of cables, etc.
in the clean room at []
25X1 11 March 1970 - [] to start final installation of the instrument in
25X1 the [] clean room.
10 June 1970 - Installation and acceptance tests completed and the instrument accepted by the Government.

b. ATR Status Report - Primary emphasis of the current phase (Phase III) of the NPIC/ATR program is to demonstrate the feasibility of automatic cloud screening. Three basic approaches to cloud screening are being investigated: (1) Electronic clue extraction, (2) matched filtering of known target areas, and (3) diffraction pattern analysis.

As of December 1968, the system design for the electronic cloud screening breadboard had been completed and actual construction was underway. Further experimental testing is being conducted to determine the desirability of having an optical breadboard for feasibility demonstrations. It is anticipated that the demonstration of the feasibility of automatic cloud screening will be held late in March or early in April. Program is on schedule.

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The impact of the resignation, effective 31 January 1969, of []
[] is currently being evaluated by
TSSG.

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c. 1540 Light Table - All the design details are complete. The film transport drive has been proven feasible through mockup and testing. Location and number of controls has been decided and fabrication of parts has begun.

Purchased parts are on order and are being delivered. Some parts, such as film drive tachometers, are to be delivered within the next week or so. Any delay in their delivery, delays final delivery of the prototype.

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[] estimates that the project is 80-85% completed and that the operating prototype will be ready for review on or about 20 January at [] Delivery of the prototype to NPIC is scheduled on or about 3 February.

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Providing purchased parts are delivered on time, this would appear realistic. Production lead-time is about 120 days after approval of prototype.

d. Dry Silver Material and Equipment Development - The program is in full swing again after the slow down caused by late funding of the FY-69 follow-on contract.

R&D for film and paper improvement and for pilot plant scale-up is in progress. The clean room pilot plant coating alley (for Dry Silver and Dry Diazo film) is in operation. It is expected that the alley will be completely debugged, refined and producing by 30 June 1969. At that time, a standard formulation will be available in quantity. (NOTE - additional formulation improvements are still under research in the laboratories).

Evaluation of the best processing techniques for film and paper sheet material is now under way.

e. Wide-Field, High-Power Anamorphic Stereoviewer - The first phase optical design is due for delivery 30 March 1969 and this schedule appears to be realistic. [] continues to optimize the design using the Grey Optimization Program. Assuming an acceptable optical design is produced, the prototype instrument is scheduled for delivery 30 July 1970.

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f. Advanced Rhomboids Model II - [] is presently fabricating the prototype instrument. All of the parts have been received and assembly will begin during the first week in January. Prototype delivery is scheduled for 30 March 1969 which appears realistic.

g. Automatic Stereo Scanner [] - Most components of this instrument are in final assembly and the scanner is now scheduled for completion on 9 April 1969. [] has experienced additional problems with the vendors of some of the optical components. An additional overrun has been submitted; the paper work requesting this funding is currently being processed within NPIC administrative channels.

h. Image Comparison Microstereoscope [] - The optical design is substantially completed and mechanical design is progressing satisfactorily. Detailed engineering drawing is continuing and appears to be on schedule. Manufacture of optical parts and procurement of certain vendor items is imminent. Delivery of the prototype is scheduled for January 1970.

[]
DCh/Development & Engineering Division,
TSSG

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